PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/537,493

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace original Figures 1-2 with the formal drawings of Figures 1-2 attached hereto.

Attachment: 2 sheets of formal drawings (Figs. 1-2)



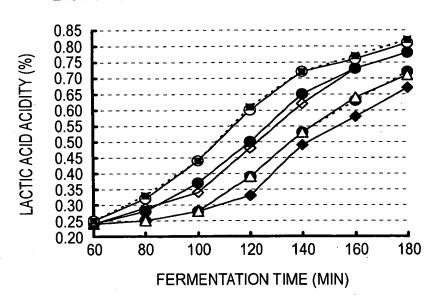
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1/2

FIG. 1

INFLUENCE OF THE DISSOLVED OXYGEN CONCENTRATION IN THE MIX ON THE CHANGE OF LACTIC ACID ACIDITY DURING FERMENTATION



DISSOLVED OXYGEN CONCENTRATION
AT THE START OF FERMENTATION

→ 8ppm (CONVENTIONAL METHOD)

· • · · 7ppm

→ 6ppm

→ 5ppm

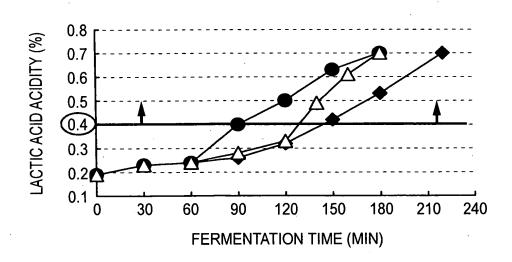
→ 4ppm

→ 3ppm

· • · · 2ppm

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FIG. 2



- → LOW-TEMPERATURE FERMENTATION (37°C)
- DEOXYGENATION LOW-TEMPERATURE FERMENTATION (37°C)
- → GENERAL FERMENTATION (43°C)